

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(332) Program 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash asked:

(1) What is the current state of the infrastructure on Christmas Island?

(2) Are there any plans to expand the facility? If so, to what capacity and when will these works begin and be completed? If not, why not?

Answer:

(1) All major work on the Department's facilities on Christmas Island is close to completion with some minor works continuing to improve amenity and upgrading of aging infrastructure. There are also minor works currently underway in regard to some additional security measures on the recently commissioned contingency accommodation bought online in May of this year.

(2) There are no plans to further expand the Christmas Island facility.